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WORLD SUGAR OUTPUT WELL ABOVE CONSUMPTION DURING 1976/77

World sugar output in 1976/77 is now estimated at 85.6 million tons,¹ raw value, 4 percent above the revised 1975/76 outturn of 82.0 million tons. Although down slightly from the November 1976 estimate, this year's production is a record high.

The major reductions since the November estimate include the USSR, the Philippines, U.S. cane sugar, and Colombia. The major upward adjustments were for India, Italy, U.S. beet sugar, and the Dominican Republic. Wet weather during much of the growing season and the harvest period was primarily responsible for the reduction in the USSR. In India, production expansion was encouraged by price incentives.

World production in 1976/77 will be about 3 million tons above world consumption, which is now placed at 82.8 million tons. Stocks at the beginning of the 1976/77 grinding season in 46 major countries were about 1.2 million tons above the year-earlier level, and are forecast to be up considerably by the beginning of the next grinding season.

Looking ahead to 1977/78, first indications are that beet sugar area will be down about 7 percent in the United States because of lower market prices, while price supports and other incentive will encourage a beet area increase of about 1 percent in Europe, including the USSR. The largest increase is expected to occur in the USSR and Eastern Europe. The European Community is expected to have a slightly reduced area, while the rest of Western Europe is likely to have the same beet area in 1977/78 as in 1976/77.

NORTH AMERICA

Cuba. With harvesting still underway, production in 1976/77 is estimated at 5.8 million tons. However, unfavorable weather may result in a downward revision of the estimate. Drought conditions during the growing season were followed by heavy rains in December at the start of the harvest. Cuba has withdrawn temporarily as a seller in the world free market. In addition to the planned exports of 2.5 million tons, Cuba has agreed to ship a

supplementary quota of 1 million tons to the USSR in 1977.

Dominican Republic. The 1976/77 estimate has been revised to 1.4 million tons. The 1976/77 authorized sugar production quota has been distributed as follows (in tons):

U.S. market	800,000
Domestic market.....	400,000
Reserve	200,000
Total	1,400,000

Mexico. The production estimate for 1976/77 has been reduced slightly. Although both area and sugarcane production increased, wet weather lowered sugar content and made it difficult to get the cane to the mills. Following the devaluation of the peso, refined sugar prices were raised for the first time in many years. This is expected to slow the increase in domestic consumption, but it is not yet clear whether exports will resume in quantity in 1977.

United States. Although the 1976/77 U.S. beet sugar outturn has been revised upward, this was more than offset by a reduced estimate of U.S. cane sugar production. Louisiana's can area experienced a freeze in late November and this was followed by a very severe freeze in Florida in mid-January. U.S. sugar imports during 1976 totaled 4.2 million tons, raw value, some 20 percent above those of the previous year. Planting intentions in January 1977 for the 1977/78 beet crop were down 7 percent from last year's total. The next planting intentions report will be released in mid-April.

SOUTH AMERICA

Brazil. The production estimate for 1976/77 remains unchanged at a record 7.5 million tons. Recovery has been good since frost reduced the 1975/76 crop, although some areas have not had optimum weather conditions in the current year. Area harvested in 1976/77 is estimated to be well above that of a year earlier as are cane yields and production. During calendar 1976, exports of all types of sugar totaled 1.3 million tons valued at \$310 million. Sugar stocks on December 31, 1976, totaled 2.4 million tons.

¹All tons are metric.

Colombia. The 1976/77 crop estimate has been lowered by more than 100,000 tons because of dry weather. About 85,000 hectares are expected to be harvested out of total plantings of 125,000 hectares. Because of the sugar shortage in Colombia, producer prices were raised 11 percent on December 23, 1976. Centrifugal sugar production in the last 5 months of 1976 was down 9 percent from that of the same period a year earlier. Consumption of panela, however, has increased.

EUROPE

France. The 1976/77 sugar outturn was revised upward slightly. Imports of raw sugar are expected to be 385,000 tons and refined sugar imports are placed at 68,000 tons. Domestic consumption will amount to about 2.2 million tons (raw value) in the current year and exports are estimated at 1.2 million tons, almost all of which will be under quota.

West Germany. Although beet production was down, sunny, dry weather during most of the growing season resulted in a higher sugar content than had been expected. The 1976/77 sugar outturn was, therefore, slightly larger than had been previously estimated and is a record high.

Italy. The 1976/77 sugar outturn is considerably greater than had been estimated in November. Apparently a good recovery was made from the early season drought that affected northern Italy. Imports in 1976/77 are still expected to be only about 250,000 tons as Italy continues to near self-sufficiency in sugar production.

United Kingdom. Sugar output during 1976/77 is now placed at a revised 750,000 tons, a little above the figures in the previous 2 years. The U.K. has some way to go, however, to reach the level of earlier years, when production was averaging about 1 million tons. Sugar content is about 15.0 percent in 1976/77, compared with 12.4 percent in 1975/76. Imports of raw sugar amounted to 1.7 million tons during January-November 1976, compared with 1.5 million tons in the same period of 1975. Refined sugar imports decreased from 560,000 tons to 245,000 tons during the same periods.

Poland. Production of sugar beets amounted to 16.3 million tons during 1976/77 and procurements through December 1976 totaled 15.1 million tons. Production in 1976/77 was up 3.5 percent from the year-earlier level while procurements by the end of 1976 were down less than 1 percent from those in the same period of 1975. Sugar production in 1976/77 is still estimated at 2.0 million tons.

USSR. Mainly because ample rainfall induced excellent yields, the sugarbeet harvest, at 98.6 million tons, was very large in 1976/77. However, low sugar content; difficulties in harvesting caused by cold weather; and problems in grinding such a large crop limited sugar output. Currently, production is estimated at 7.5 million tons, and the outturn may be even less. This compares with the November estimate of 9.2 million tons and 1975/76 production of 7.7 million tons. The shortfall will be made up in imports. In addition to the 2.5 million tons that will be purchased from Cuba under the bilateral agreement, another 1 million tons

are to be supplied by this source. Additional purchases of as much as 700,000 tons recently have been made on the free market.

AFRICA

Mauritius. During 1976/77 cane yield was 79.4 tons per hectare and the amount of cane produced totaled 6.4 million tons. This resulted in a sugar output of 496,000 tons. Because of an expected record outturn of 762,000 tons in 1977/78 following the current good crop, exportable supplies of 720,000 tons may be available for shipment in 1977/78.

South Africa. Sugar production is still expected to be about 2 million tons in 1976/77. However, higher consumer prices have curtailed domestic consumption, leaving more sugar available for export. Exports normally amount to around 40 percent of production.

ASIA AND OCEANIA

People's Republic of China. The 1976/77 production estimate remains unchanged at 2.6 million tons. However, weather conditions reportedly have been favorable and the estimate may be increased. At the same time, China has been purchasing more sugar than usual from other countries and the total supply is probably greater.

India. Centrifugal sugar output has been revised upward to 5.9 million tons, primarily because of higher output resulting from price incentives. Total cane production in 1976/77 is now estimated at 145 million tons (including cane for noncentrifugal sugar), compared with the previous year's crop of 143 million tons. However, this is still short of the 150 million tons called for in 1976/77 under the official annual plan. Total exports in 1976/77 are expected to be about half the 1.2 million tons exported in 1975/76. Exports of sugar are declining because local consumption is again increasing in line with lower domestic retail prices. Also, India no longer has a large trade deficit, since imports of grains and fertilizers have been sharply reduced.

Iran. Output in 1976/77 is expected to rise more sharply than previously estimated. Of the 750,000 tons to be produced in 1976/77, 660,000 will be beet sugar and 90,000 will be from cane. Imports are forecast at 550,000 tons, with total consumption around 1.3 million tons.

Japan. Sugar imports during 1976 totaled 2.4 million tons, compared with 2.5 million tons a year earlier. Production during 1976/77 of 461,000 tons also was below the previous year's level. In view of low prices and sluggish consumption, an effort is being made to renegotiate the Australia-Japan agreement for 600,000 tons of sugar annually. The price under the agreement is at a level well above the current world price. However, no significant progress has been reported in these discussions.

Philippines. The 1976/77 production estimate has been reduced because the harvest was late in starting. Stocks at the beginning of 1977 were estimated at 1.5 million tons. Bilateral export agreements have been made for about 2.5 million tons. However, because of a lack of sufficient port

facilities, this amount is not likely to be shipped. Production during 1977/78 could decrease more than 10 percent, as farmers may use fewer production inputs in addition to reducing planted area. Low world prices have lead the Government to encourage growers to shift from sugar to other crops in 1977/78. Area is expected to be down 10 percent on Luzon, and could be down even more in other production regions.

Turkey. The campaign has gone well and the sugar production estimate has been revised upward to 1.2 million tons. Beet output was an estimated 9 million tons, well

above the level of the preceding year. Because of expanding sugar output, no sugar was imported during 1976.

Australia. The 1976/77 production estimate of 3.4 million tons is a record high for Australia. This quantity was processed from 23.3 million tons of cane, which was grown on 290,000 hectares. With little increase in domestic consumption expected, the exportable surplus will reach 2.6 million tons. The decrease in world prices has been cushioned somewhat by devaluation and by long-term contractual arrangements, some of which are at fixed prices.

CENTRIFUGAL SUGAR (RAW VALUE) PRODUCTION IN SPECIFIED COUNTRIES - AVERAGE 1967/68-1971/72, ANNUAL 1972/73-1976/77 1/
(IN THOUSANDS OF METRIC TONS)

REGION AND COUNTRY	AVERAGE 1967/68-1971/72	1972/73	1973/74	1974/75	1975/76	1976/77
NORTH AMERICA:						
BARBADOS.....	142	118	110	98	104	103
BELIZE.....	65	72	90	89	75	90
CANADA.....	130	146	114	93	120	130
COSTA RICA.....	149	174	164	178	178	174
CUBA.....	5,999	5,250	5,800	6,300	6,000	5,800
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.....	954	1,142	1,194	1,135	1,267	1,361
EL SALVADOR.....	141	188	232	257	261	270
GUATELOUPE.....	136	121	97	87	96	100
GUATEMALA.....	190	270	325	384	548	576
HAITI.....	59	65	65	58	56	55
HONOURAS.....	57	59	73	76	87	113
JAMAICA.....	399	339	383	366	345	350
MARTINIQUE.....	29	23	14	16	14	20
MEXICO.....	2,459	2,769	2,834	2,727	2,722	2,700
NICARAGUA.....	142	142	160	196	246	260
PANAMA.....	78	85	108	136	142	137
57 KTT'S.....	30	24	27	26	36	43
TRINIDAD-TOBAGO.....	231	187	187	163	203	224
US-CONTINENTAL(BEET).....	2,994	3,322	2,918	2,645	3,646	3,543
US-CONTINENTAL(CANE).....	1,125	1,469	1,253	1,334	1,657	1,497
US-HAWAII.....	1,084	1,024	944	1,004	953	952
US-PUERTO RICO.....	400	231	263	271	278	272
TOTAL.....	16,992	17,220	17,355	17,639	19,034	18,770
SOUTH AMERICA:						
ARGENTINA.....	909	1,293	1,650	1,532	1,349	1,619
BOLIVIA.....	106	123	174	166	200	277
BRAZIL.....	4,836	6,163	6,959	7,400	6,200	7,500
CHILE.....	184	153	91	220	330	202
COLOMBIA.....	697	814	850	908	948	900
ECUADOR.....	218	249	245	268	287	306
GUYANA.....	341	270	316	305	366	350
PARAGUAY.....	48	56	73	81	84	90
PERU.....	806	920	1,020	990	990	950
SURINAM.....	15	9	10	10	10	10
URUGUAY.....	54	104	104	112	129	150
VENEZUELA.....	430	518	526	514	495	456
TOTAL.....	8,643	10,672	12,018	12,506	11,388	12,810
WESTERN EUROPE:						
ECI:						
BELGIUM-LUXEMBOURG.....	669	689	785	620	727	680
DENMARK.....	313	342	367	415	423	435
FRANCE.....	2,541	2,983	3,255	2,948	3,231	2,973
GERMANY, FED. REP. OF.....	2,109	2,250	2,500	2,438	2,533	2,619
IRELAND.....	158	169	189	143	199	185
ITALY.....	1,358	1,253	1,156	1,010	1,457	1,739
NETHERLANDS.....	742	756	832	777	914	945
UNITED KINGDOM.....	1,004	963	1,047	622	701	750
TOTAL ECI.....	8,894	9,405	10,131	8,973	10,185	10,316
AUSTRALIA:						
FINLAND.....	319	388	370	397	512	391
GREECE.....	58	88	85	76	77	85
PORTUGAL (AZORES & MADEIRA)	141	129	161	187	307	380
SPAIN.....	24	30	33	24	25	30
SWEDEN.....	813	832	804	598	934	1,076
SWITZERLAND.....	248	292	264	305	277	308
TOTAL.....	68	67	78	72	64	83
TOTAL.....	10,565	11,231	11,926	10,632	12,381	12,669
EASTERN EUROPE:						
ALBANIA.....	16	19	19	20	21	22
BULGARIA.....	229	230	265	235	250	285
CZECHOSLOVAKIA.....	749	779	810	850	750	700
GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REP.....	528	720	705	700	650	600
HUNGARY.....	378	330	327	340	350	400
POLAND.....	1,672	1,829	1,817	1,557	1,950	2,000
ROMANIA.....	428	577	633	561	560	700
YUGOSLAVIA.....	430	427	483	554	489	663
TOTAL.....	4,431	4,911	5,059	4,817	5,020	5,370
TOTAL EUROPE.....	14,995	16,142	16,985	15,449	17,401	18,039
TOTAL U.S.S.R.....	9,228	8,148	9,568	7,730	7,700	7,500
AFRICA:						
ANGOLA.....	74	82	70	80	60	50
EGYPT.....	442	590	649	540	620	675
ETHIOPIA.....	92	144	150	160	165	180
KENYA.....	112	101	160	165	161	175
MALAGASY REPUBLIC.....	105	110	115	112	114	118
MAURITIUS.....	615	686	697	696	496	731
MOROCCO.....	104	223	248	290	350	360
MOZAMBIQUE.....	268	365	390	400	243	350
REUNION.....	229	227	251	239	246	260
RHODESIA.....	143	200	248	250	265	240
SOUTH AFRICA.....	1,648	1,915	1,731	1,883	1,801	2,000
SWAZILAND.....	162	171	190	200	235	208
TANZANIA.....	89	105	110	110	112	115
UGANDA.....	150	89	55	27	30	35

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CENTRIFUGAL SUGAR (RAW VALUE) PRODUCTION IN SPECIFIED COUNTRIES - AVERAGE 1967/68-1971/72, ANNUAL 1972/73-1976/77 1/
(IN THOUSANDS OF METRIC TONS)

REGION AND COUNTRY	:	AVERAGE 1967/68-1971/72	:	1972/73	:	1973/74	:	1974/75	:	1975/76	:	1976/77 2/
ZAIRE (CONGO, K)	58	63	64	64	64	64	64	64	66	66	70	70
OTHER 3/	358	393	410	464	464	532	532	532	532	532	561	616
TOTAL.....	4,649	5,465	5,538	5,680	5,680	5,998	5,998	6,163	6,163	6,163		
ASIA												
BURMA	97	120	100	110	110	110	110	110	110	110	132	132
CHINA, PEOPLES REP.	1,864	1,821	2,630	2,440	2,440	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,600	2,600
CHINA, REP. OF (TAIWAN)	766	780	892	751	751	819	819	819	819	819	884	884
INDIA 4/	3,670	4,571	4,949	5,794	5,794	5,460	5,460	5,460	5,460	5,460	5,900	5,900
INDONESIA	737	890	950	1,000	1,000	1,050	1,050	1,050	1,050	1,050	1,150	1,150
IRAN	535	625	660	645	645	685	685	685	685	685	750	750
JAPAN	451	650	653	478	478	471	471	471	471	471	461	461
NANSEI-NANPO (RYUKYU)	212	25/	5/	5/	5/	5/	5/	5/	5/	5/	5/	5/
PAKISTAN	517	470	636	557	557	630	630	630	630	630	675	675
PHILIPPINES	1,809	2,424	2,643	2,465	2,465	2,930	2,930	2,930	2,930	2,930	2,600	2,600
THAILAND	421	649	930	1,060	1,060	1,063	1,063	1,063	1,063	1,063	1,800	1,800
TURKEY	719	811	833	834	834	986	986	986	986	986	1,200	1,200
OTHER 5/	110	182	321	322	322	334	334	334	334	334	369	369
TOTAL.....	11,908	13,993	16,197	16,1416	16,1416	17,578	17,578	18,521	18,521	18,521		
OCEANIA												
AUSTRALIA	2,521	2,870	2,592	2,920	2,920	2,988	2,988	3,390	3,390	3,390		
FIJI	369	375	350	360	360	380	380	380	380	380		
TOTAL.....	2,890	3,245	2,942	3,280	3,280	3,368	3,368	3,770	3,770	3,770		
WORLD TOTAL.....	69,305	74,885	80,603	76,700	76,700	81,967	81,967	85,593	85,593	85,593		

1/ Crop years are on a September/August basis, but include the outturn of sugar from harvests of several Southern Hemisphere countries which begin prior to September. Refined beet sugar is generally converted to raw value by multiplying by 1.087, while refined cane sugar is multiplied by 1.07 to obtain the raw value equivalent. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Other Africa includes Arar-Issas, Algeria, Cameroon, Congo (Brazzaville), Ghana, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Malawi, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, and Zambia. 4/ Includes khandsari. 5/ Since January 1, 1972, included in Japan. 6/ Other Asia includes Afghanistan, Iraq, Israel, Lebanon, Malaysia, Nepal, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Syria, and Vietnam. Bangladesh is included in Other Asia beginning in 1971/72.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source material, reports of U.S. Agricultural Attachés and Foreign Service Officers, results of office research, and related information.

CENTRIFUGAL SUGAR (RAW VALUE): STOCKS BEGINNING OF GRINDING SEASON IN 46 COUNTRIES
SEASON 1972/73 - 1976/77
(In thousands of metric tons)

Continent and country	Date 1/	Sugar-making Season				
		1972/73	1973/74	1974/75	1975/76	1976/77 2/
North America:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Canada	September 1	204	199	153	202	239
Costa Rica	October 1	62	46	30	31	16
El Salvador	November 1	21	21	22	19	42
Guatemala	November 1	57	10	27	11	16
Mexico	November 1	303	326	274	291	295
Nicaragua	January 1	30	4	1	5	3
U.S. and insular areas	October 1	1,092	1,135	1,004	1,508	1,710
Caribbean:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Barbados	January 1	5	4	6	1	5
Dominican Republic	January 1	92	45	29	28	272
Haiti	January 1	6	3	6	5	6
Jamaica	January 1	29	42	16	18	16
Trinidad and Tobago	January 1	2	1	2	4	2
Total		1,903	1,836	1,570	2,123	2,622
South America:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Argentina	June 1	29	63	68	35	15
Brazil	June 1	1,249	791	515	1,200	1,584
Chile	April 1	61	63	47	18	50
Colombia	May 1	66	30	35	23	29
Ecuador	May 1	50	44	18	32	31
Guyana	August 1	7	8	15	20	19
Peru	January 1	61	60	67	82	100
Uruguay	October 1	47	42	39	27	14
Venezuela	September 1	79	45	114	176	83
Total		1,649	1,146	918	1,613	1,925
Europe:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Austria	October 1	74	60	51	100	85
Belgium	October 1	55	45	33	48	154
Denmark	October 1	34	35	33	42	22
Finland	August 1	18	32	27	52	36
France	October 1	980	143	160	413	217
Germany, Federal Republic of	October 1	853	757	636	665	475
Greece	July 1	76	75	76	95	38
Ireland	October 1	83	93	93	61	73
Italy	August 1	260	357	241	163	418
Netherlands	October 1	65	50	43	13	63
Spain	July 1	248	101	99	99	272
Sweden	August 1	145	157	122	128	116
Switzerland	October 1	163	137	124	114	74
United Kingdom	September 1	763	629	500	244	467
Yugoslavia	September 1	92	276	503	455	58
Total		3,909	2,947	2,741	2,692	2,568
Africa:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Egypt	November 1	44	44	54	60	132
Mauritius	June 1	32	68	64	70	82
South Africa, Republic of	May 1	211	87	93	102	212
Total		287	199	211	232	426
Asia:	:	:	:	:	:	:
India	November 1	597	656	704	777	737
Iran	October 1	524	385	517	570	207
Japan	October 1	536	259	336	370	605
Philippines	October 1	56	152	522	575	743
Thailand	November 1	103	118	322	357	719
Turkey	August 1	281	260	100	110	107
Total		2,097	1,830	2,501	2,759	3,118
Australia	June 1	253	408	220	242	219
Total of above		10,098	8,366	8,161	9,661	10,878

1/ All stock carryover dates, except for January 1 and April 1, apply to the first year mentioned at the head of each column.

2/ Preliminary.

Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source materials, reports of U.S. Agricultural Attachés and Foreign Service Officers, results of office research and related information.

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